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# Tennessee Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 2

Issued 3:00 P.M. 10/03/2005

Week Ending October 2, 2005

## HARVEST OF FALL CROPS CONTINUES

Tennessee farmers took advantage of the mostly dry weather last week and made good progress harvesting row crops. Corn producers picked an additional 15 percent of their crop, bringing the overall total to just over three-fourths of the acreage harvested. Soybean harvest jumped from a week earlier, with many producers reporting better-than-expected yields. Cotton farmers also took advantage of last week’s dry conditions to advance harvest. Cotton defoliation continued with about all of the crop now open. Tobacco growers also continued harvest with progress running at a normal pace. Although pasture conditions remain mostly good, farmers are awaiting rain for further renovation and seeding. Many beef producers have begun feeding hay. Fertilizer applications, winter wheat seeding, and burley stripping were some of the other activities taking place last week.

There were 5 days considered suitable for field work. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 9 percent very short, 23 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 27 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged about 3 to 5 degrees above normal across the entire State last week. Rainfall averaged slightly above normal in the East and Plateau, while the rest of the State averaged below normal.

CROP PROGRESS: Through October 2, 2005					CONDITION: On September 30, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Grain Harvested	76	61	89	87	Soybeans	2	8	27	49	14
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	88	80	66	62	Cotton	0	3	23	58	16
Soybeans - Harvested	30	20	25	16	Pastures	7	16	43	32	2
Cotton - Bolls Opening	96	90	85	90	Cattle	2	5	29	52	12
Cotton Defoliated	64	48	62	69						
Cotton Harvested	17	9	14	23						
Winter Wheat Seeded	5	n/a	6	8						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	92	87	90	92						
Burley Tobacco Stripped	14	8	8	11						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	95	90	92	95						

n/a =not available

**CORN:** With drier conditions towards the end of last week, corn harvest made good progress. Good to excellent yields were being reported in many areas. With a little under a quarter of the grain acreage left to be harvested, progress lagged slightly behind both last year and the 5-year average.

**COTTON:** Defoliant applications have reached almost two-thirds of the State’s acreage and, along with harvest, are at a pace slightly ahead of last year but behind the 5-year average. The crop’s condition continued to be rated as good-to-fair.

**SOYBEANS:** Harvest picked up steam as the crop progressed toward maturity. Soybean conditions improved slightly from the previous week and remained good-to-fair.

**TOBACCO:** Most of the burley crop had been harvested by week’s end and about all of it is now in the barn. Growers continued to prepare the crop for market last week by firing dark types and stripping burley. As of Sunday, 14 percent of the burley crop had been stripped. Fair yields have been reported thus far with no major curing problems encountered.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Pastures continued to show improvement with moisture and cooler temperatures and were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Horn flies, as well as pink eye, continued to be a problem in a few cattle herds. Overall, cattle were rated in mostly good condition.

### County Agent Quotes

*“Dry weather continues to be agricultural news in this region of the state. Some widely scattered showers moved through the area, however, the rainfall was light.”*

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

*“The farmers in Fayette County were able to defoliate and harvest cotton, and harvest beans and corn this week with plenty of sunshine. We had cooler temperatures early in the week but warmed up later.”*

Jeffery Via, Fayette County

### TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: October 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2005 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending October 2, 2005				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	10/02/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	89	45	70	+4	2.05	3	43.62	+4.16	2659	+301
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	45	68	+5	0.68	4	30.93	-1.07	1891	+267
Brownsville_TN	88	47	70	+3	2.24	3	40.80	+1.41	2747	+654
Chattanooga/Lov	85	51	73	+6	0.91	4	38.11	-2.59	2583	+310
Clarksville_Sew	88	45	70	+6	0.16	3	36.55	-1.42	2564	+451
Cookeville	86	43	68	+5	0.98	3	33.64	-9.67	2072	+757
Covington	86	46	68	+0	1.55	4	40.50	+1.85	2541	+139
Crossville_AP	79	44	67	+6	1.12	3	36.36	-5.86	1844	+353
Dickson_AG	86	43	69	+4	0.16	1	40.48	-0.21	2152	-45
Dover_1W	88	44	67	+4	2.66	2	37.81	-1.74	2366	+486
Dyersburg	88	46	69	+2	1.68	2	36.89	-0.69	2742	+193
Erwin_1W	83	49	68	+7	0.89	3	34.15	-4.37	1772	-153
Huntingdon_Wate	86	44	67	+2	1.06	3	40.14	+0.08	2452	+453
Jackson_Exp_Stn	87	45	68	+2	1.98	3	44.94	+5.72	2613	+307
Kingston_AG	85	48	69	+6	0.54	2	39.98	-4.33	2142	+404
Knoxville_AP	88	51	71	+7	0.83	3	30.81	-5.38	2375	+418
Lewisburg	86	40	68	+4	3.73	3	40.98	-0.25	2244	+279
Lexington_TN	87	45	68	+2	1.71	3	39.67	+1.51	2435	+1028
Linden	88	43	68	+4	1.04	2	37.32	-4.28	2366	+383
Martin	86	44	68	+3	2.35	3	38.00	-1.66	2512	+312
Mc_Minnville_Tn	86	46	71	+6	1.07	3	32.72	-7.79	2344	-103
Memphis_AG	90	46	70	+0	2.21	3	40.94	+2.49	2812	-42
Milan	87	40	66	+2	2.63	3	43.16	+2.17	2398	+248
Murfreesboro_5N	86	43	69	+5	1.00	2	35.85	-4.73	2429	-16
Nashville_Metro	86	50	71	+4	0.84	1	33.54	-2.59	2690	+368
Newcomb	85	44	67	+7	1.05	3	38.16	-3.64	1984	+583
Oneida	85	45	67	+7	0.53	3	34.35	-7.45	1976	-109
Pikeville	83	49	70	+5	1.00	2	30.84	-9.71	2224	+313
Portland_TN	85	47	68	+4	1.31	3	43.41	+4.46	2361	+437
Pulaski_Water_P	86	45	69	+2	2.62	3	43.20	+1.73	2257	-49
Savannah_6SW	88	40	68	+0	5.51	1	45.47	+3.01	2447	+403
Sparta_TN	85	43	70	+7	1.20	3	34.11	-7.68	2316	+655
Springfield	86	40	67	+3	0.52	2	37.35	-0.10	2283	+360
Springhill	87	43	69	+5	1.63	2	40.73	-0.45	2385	+429
Union_City	86	43	67	+2	2.54	2	39.56	+0.91	2329	+200
Waynesboro_TN	87	44	69	+5	0.86	4	38.76	-4.39	2337	+128

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).    GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.    Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:  
National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee's Extension Service.